

STAT

Distribution II PW-FBI SKED 9-17 (W.C.)

17 September 1981

FORMER AMERICAN COMMUNISTS SPIED FOR FBI
NEW YORK (UPI) -- TWO BROTHERS OPERATING UNDER
'GOLD' SERVED AS KEY FBI INFORMANTS IN THE AMERICAN
AND WERE INDIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FBI'S SPYING
ON LUTHER KING JR., SAYS A BOOK PUBLISHED THIS WEEK.

THE ACTIVITIES OF MORRIS AND JACK CHILDS WERE
MOST CAREFULLY GUARDED SECRETS, DR. DAVID J. GARROW
FBI AND MARTIN LUTHER KING JR."

GARROW, A POLITICAL SCIENCE PROFESSOR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF
CAROLINA, ALSO SAID THE BROTHERS HELPED MOVE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS FROM
THE SOVIET UNION TO THE AMERICAN COMMUNIST PARTY.

THE BOOK WAS WRITTEN FROM DOCUMENTS OBTAINED UNDER THE FREEDOM OF
INFORMATION ACT AND INTERVIEWS WITH CIVIL RIGHTS LEADERS, FORMER
GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND OTHER SOURCES AND IS BEING PUBLISHED THIS
WEEK BY W.W. NORTON & CO.

THE CHILDS BROTHERS WORKED WITH THE FBI FOR MORE THAN 25 YEARS AND
NEITHER EVER RETIRED AS ACTIVE INFORMANTS, GARROW SAID. MORRIS
CHILDS, 79, IS IN ILL HEALTH AND UNDER 24-HOUR FBI PROTECTION. JACK
CHILDS DIED AUG. 12, 1980, IN HAMPTON BAYS, N.Y.

IN 1962, GARROW WROTE, THE FBI LEARNED NEW YORK LAWYER STANLEY
LEVISON WAS A CLOSE PERSONAL FRIEND AND ADVISER TO KING. THE CHILDS
BROTHERS HAD LINKED LEVISON TO THE AMERICAN COMMUNIST PARTY 10 YEAR
EARLIER, THE BOOK SAID.

DESPITE THE LACK OF EVIDENCE THAT LEVISON WAS ACTIVE IN THE
COMMUNIST PARTY, THE FBI BEGAN TAPPING KING'S TELEPHONES AND BUGGING
HIS HOTEL ROOMS ON THE THEORY SUBVERSIVES MIGHT BE IN CONTROL OF THE
CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT, GARROW WROTE.

THE BOOK ALSO OUTLINES IMPORTANT INFORMATION THE SOLO OPERATION
PROVIDED THE GOVERNMENT ABOUT SOVIET SUPPORT FOR AMERICAN COMMUNISTS.

BETWEEN 1951 AND 1954, THE CHILDS BROTHERS HELPED THE SOVIET
GOVERNMENT SECRETLY MOVE ABOUT \$1 MILLION A YEAR TO COMMUNIST PARTY
OFFICIALS IN THE UNITED STATES, THE BOOK SAID.

STAT